

REMARKS

In the December 5, 2007 Office Action, claim 1 was rejected in view of prior art. Claim 1 was also rejected as being indefinite. No other objections or rejections were made in the Office Action.

Status of Claims and Amendments

In response to the December 5, 2007 Office Action, Applicants have cancelled claim 1 and introduced new claims 14-22, as indicated above. Thus, claims 14-22 are pending with claims 14 and 22 being the only independent claims. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claim are respectfully requested in view of above amendments and the following comments.

Applicants notes that in response to the October 20, 2004 Restriction Requirement, Applicant elected apparatus claims. Method claims directed to a process of making a semiconductor device were thereafter withdrawn. Accordingly, Applicants elect claims 14-21 (apparatus claims) for prosecution on the merits and voluntarily withdraw new claim 22, if required by the Examiner.

New claims 14-22 include features not previously claimed that raise new issues. Therefore, Applicants are filing herewith a Request for Continued Prosecution.

Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102. However, since claim 1 has been cancelled, the rejection is moot.

Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Office Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. However, since claim 1 has been cancelled, the rejection is moot.

New Claims 14-22

Applicants have introduced new claims 14-22 to more clearly distinguish over the prior art.

Support for new independent claim 14 can be found in Figure 7 and Example 1, paragraph [0088] of the published application, as well as in Examples 2, 3 and 4 (paragraphs [0096] – [0098]).

Support for new dependent claim 15 can be found in Figure 10, Example 3, paragraph [0097] of the published application.

Support for new dependent claim 16 can be found in Figure 9, Example 2, paragraph [0096] of the published application.

Support for new dependent claim 17 can be found in Figure 11, Example 4, paragraph [0098] of the published application.

Support for new dependent claims 18-21 can be found in Figure 7, Example 1, paragraphs [0088] – [0095] of the published application.

Support for new independent claim 22 can be found in Figure 8, Example 1, paragraphs [0088] – [0095] of the published application.

New independent claim 14 recites a semiconductor device that includes a semiconductor substrate and through wiring. Claim 14 requires that the semiconductor substrate has a semiconductor substrate main unit and a thin portion with the thin portion

being thinner than the semiconductor substrate main unit such that a recessed portion is formed in the semiconductor substrate at the thin portion. Claim 14 goes on to require that the thin portion has at least one through hole formed therein. Claim 14 further requires that the through wiring include *a first wiring formed on a first surface of the semiconductor substrate, a second wiring formed on a second surface opposite to the first surface*, and a third wiring that fills the through hole. Claim 14 also requires that the *third wiring be formed along a wall surface of the recessed portion, and connects the first wiring and the second wiring.*

The combination of features required by claim 14 is neither disclosed or suggested in the cited prior art. Specifically, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest *a first wiring formed on a first surface of a semiconductor substrate, a second wiring formed on a second surface opposite to the first surface*, and a third wiring that fills a through hole formed in a thin portion of a semiconductor substrate where the *third wiring is formed along a wall surface of a recessed portion at the thin portion, and connects the first wiring and the second wiring.*

Prior Art Citation

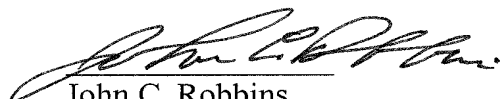
In the Office Action, additional prior art references were made of record. Applicants believe that these references do not render the claimed invention obvious.

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Appl. No. 10/605,585
Amendment dated April 1, 2008
Reply to Office Action of December 5, 2007

In view of the foregoing amendment and comments, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 14-22 are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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